Use of non eco-friendly fuels in transport section

915. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to curb air pollution because of use of non eco-friendly fuels in transport sector; and

(b) the specific steps taken by Government to ensure supply of eco-friendly fuels in transport sector specially in Eastern States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The fuel quality specifications for transport sector have been progressively made more stringent for prevention and control of air pollution in the country. The Ministry of Environment and Forests issued a notification in April 1996 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on diesel and gasoline fuel quality with respect to environment related parameters. The leaded gasoline has been phased out and unleaded gasoline has been made available in the entire country. Like-wise, sulphur content in diesel has been brought down to 0.05% and benzene level in gasoline to 1%.

As per the Roadmap of Auto Fuel Policy, Bharat Stage (BS)-III emission norms for 4 wheelers have been implemented in the 11 mega cities, while BS-II emission norms for 2 & 3 wheelers have been implemented all over the country from April 2005. Fuel quality both diesel and gasoline commensurate with the notified emission norms have been made available all over the country.

The compressed natural gas (CNG) as automotive fuel has been introduced in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Ankleshwar, Vadodara, Surat, Kanpur, Barelly, Agra, Lucknow and Tripura. In Kolkata, all three-wheelers have been switched over to Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) mode from September, 2005. Gasoline with 5 % ethanol is being supplied in certain States from January 01, 2003. In Eastern states of the country, the quality of fuel supplied is as per applicable vehicular norms. Tripura is first among the seven northeastern States that has replaced the conventional fuel used by vehicles with CNG.

Food processing units in Punjab

916. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for setting up of food processing units and those for the extension of the existing units in Punjab pending with Government for clearance;

(b) the reasons for delay in cases where the proposals are pending for over one year; and

(c) the action proposed to expedite their clearances?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) 159 proposals seeking assistance from the Government for setting up of new units and